

CITIZENS' INDEPENDENT TRANSPORTATION TRUST (CITT)

December 3, 2003

Historical City Hall

3500 Pan American Drive

Commission Chambers

10:30 a.m.

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

CITT MEMBERS:

Hon. John F. Cosgrove, Chairman

Marc Buoniconiti, Vice-Chairman

Hon. Mike Abrams

LtCol Antonio Colmenares

Henry Lee Givens

Franklin Kelly

Thamara Labrousse

Hon. Luis C. Morse

Miles Moss

James Reeder

Theodore Wilde

COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Robert Cuevas

OTHERS ATTENDING:

Carlos Bonzon, Ph.D., P.E., Surface Transportation Manager

Hilda Fernandez, CITT, Executive Director

Roosevelt Bradley, Director, MDT

Clinton Forbes, MDT

Patty David, CITT

Alina Philipp, CITT

Patrice Rosemond, CITT

Virginia Diaz, CITT

Pepe Valdes, CITT

Joanna Santiago, CITT

Marlene Amaro, CITT

ROLL CALL

With a quorum being present, Mr. Cosgrove, Chairman, called the CITT meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Cosgrove said he would like to add item #8 "Executive Director's Report" following "New Business". Mr. Morse mentioned that the Trust members had approved a resolution to abstain from approving any budgetary items until the Trust has received the 30-year pro forma. Mr. Cosgrove noted that the Budget Workshop is scheduled at 12:30 p.m., immediately following the meeting. At the time, George Burgess, County Manager will be presenting the 30-year pro forma. The items 6B2 and 6B3 on the agenda are part of the committee reports and any member who does not wish to approve those items does not need to do so. Mr. Morse made a motion to withdraw items 6B2 and 6B3, seconded by Mr. Reeder.

Mr. Givens asked if any of the items time sensitive. Mr. Roosevelt Bradley, MDT Director, responded that the Project Review Committee and the Budget and Finance committee have approved the item 6B3 - Bus Service Improvement. Personnel have been hired to implement the bus service improvements and it would be a major impact in operations. The 30-year pro forma presented today includes the funding for the bus service improvements. Additionally, the improvements were contemplated as part of the PTP. Mr. Cosgrove suggested recessing the meeting at 12:30 p.m. in order to hear the 30-year pro forma presentation made by the County Manager and then reconvene the CITT meeting to vote on those items. Mr. Morse withdrew his motion. Mr. Cosgrove requested a motion to approve the agenda as amended, LtCol Colmenares moved approval, and the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Cosgrove requested a motion to approve the October 29, 2003 minutes. Mr. Abrams moved approval, seconded by Mr. Reeder and carried without dissent.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Cosgrove introduced Hilda Fernandez as the CITT Executive Director who has been appointed by the County Manager. Ms. Fernandez worked as the Executive Director for the Homeless Trust from 1997 – 2003. She was also the PTP Coordinator to a very successful campaign and a reporter for Channel 7. She comes to the Trust with a great deal of board experience. Ms. Fernandez stated that he is thankful for the opportunity and looks forward to working with the Trust and implementing the PTP.

Mr. Abrams suggested placing the "Executive Director's Report" after the Chairman's Report. Mr. Cosgrove also asked that the "Presentations" should also be placed before "Reports".

Mr. Cosgrove asked Mr. Abrams to update the members on the Selection Committee for the Financial Service Advisor. Mr. Abrams reported that he asked the Budget & Finance Committee to support a motion requesting the Selection Committee to open the process for outside firms

who do not have existing contracts with the county. Ms. Fernandez added that a decision was made to open the process and she will be working with the County Attorney and the Office of Performance Improvement Strategic Management to modify the document in order to open the process and on a timely basis. The item will be placed on the CITT agenda in January for approval and forwarded to the BCC in February for final approval.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – THEODORE WILDE

Mr. Wilde stated the Budget and Finance Committee met on November 25, 2003, a copy of his report included in the agenda package reflect the items discussed.

Jack Furney, distributed a copy of the “CITT November 2003 Report – Preliminary”. He asked the members to review and make any suggestions that he would like to add. Mr. Wilde asked that the department of Public Works and Miami Dade Transit to provide, Mr. Furney with their portion of surtax dollars to be include in the report.

Mr. Cosgrove asked Ms. Fernandez and Jack Furney to present a CITT Internal Budget at the next CITT meeting, December 17, 2003. It is his understanding that the County Manager has allocated monies for the CITT.

PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE – LTCOL ANTONIO COLMENARES

LtCol Colmenares announced that the Project Review Committee is scheduled this evening, 6:00 p.m. at the War Memorial Youth Center in Coral Gables. At the last PRC meeting on November 10, 2003, Omnibus provided the members with a power point presentation on their products and line of services. In addition, the City of Miami provided its Transportation Plan which still needed approval by its city Commission. They were asked to provide a list of projects that will be utilizing PTP funds. Jose Galan also presented PWD 2-year plan and the MOU with the City of Hialeah. The Public Works Department 2-year plan is an action item on the agenda this evening. Mr. Forbes also presented the Bus Service Improvements that will be discussed later at the meeting.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – LUIS C. MORSE

Mr. Morse reported and distributed a copy of the municipalities report. He stated that to date only 7 municipalities have submitted all three requested items: transportation plans, copy of approved budget and executed interlocal agreement. Twenty-one municipalities have submitted an executed interlocal agreement only. The Town of Miami Lakes is missing its approved budget. The Town of Bay Harbor Island and Miami Shores Village are missing their transportation plan. On October 29, 2003, the CITT approved the resolution encouraging municipalities to comply with the submittal of transportation plans by December 31, 2003 or recommend to the BCC to withhold future funding. In addition, Mark Alvarez from the Center of Urban Transportation Research (CUTR) provided a report on Public Involvement. It was recommended that MDT do the function of public involvement and CITT staff is working with MDT. Lastly, he announced that an invitation has been extended to the members to attend the Kickoff for “Smart Commute Program”. The program provides affordable housing mortgages to individuals who live within a transit area. The event is scheduled for December 19, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. at the Douglas Road Station. (A copy of the invitation was distributed).

Mr. Cosgrove mentioned that during the Municipality Workshop the cities were informed that if they needed assistance it was available to them free of charge and that an extension would be given if necessary.

COMPLIANCE AND OVERSIGHT – HENRY LEE GIVENS

Mr. Givens reported that it was suggested to staff to separate the portion of the contract according to each committee responsibilities. It would be more practical for the members to review only the area instead of reviewing the entire contract. Also, suggested that the contracts be provided to the members 10 days prior to the committee meetings with a return receipt. The committee approved the Penske Contract. He asked what is the current status on that contract. Mr. Cosgrove stated that at the request of MDT it was deferred for future consideration. Mr. Givens stated that the BCC has already approved the contract. Mr. Bradley said he would like to present the item for approval at the next CITT meeting December 17, 2003. Mr. Cosgrove stated at it needs to go to committee prior to the full CITT.

Mr. Givens asked if the item 6 B2 MOU with the City of Hialeah has been reviewed by the department of Business Development. Mr. Jose Galan, Assistant Director Public Works Department responded it did not because it is a contract with the City of Hialeah and Hialeah's rules and regulations are not the same as Miami Dade County. Mr. Givens stated that all contracts need to be reviewed by Compliance and Oversight to make sure that they include minority participation. Mr. Cosgrove deferred the item until it has been reviewed by Mr. Givens and Budget and Finance Committee.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE- LTCOL COLMENARES

Mr. Cosgrove stated that a copy of the Bylaws "A" was prepared by LtCol Colmenares's Bylaws Workshops and Bylaws "B" was amended by staff and the County Attorney. In addition, a matrix comparing both sets of Bylaws was distributed. He thanked LtCol Colmenares for his time and hard work along with other members who participated. He asked the members to review the Bylaws for final approval at the next CITT meeting December 17, 2003. LtCol Colmenares thanked the members and staff who contributed and stated that he would like to hold another workshop to prepare final Bylaws for approval prior to the December 17, 2003.

PRESENTATIONS

Jose Mesa spoke on behalf of the Metropolitan Planning Organization; he stated that the MPO is an independent board. CITT is a key committee, it is important to work as a team with all the transit agencies. He introduced Bill Anido, Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade & Douglas, Inc., who provided a power point presentation. Ms. Anido stated that the purpose of the presentation is to provide the CITT members with a status update of Miami-Dade's Rapid Transit Corridors in the Transportation Plan. The same presentation was made to the MPO members on October. The MPO's long-range plan is divided into five priorities, beginning fiscal year 2004 to 2025. He highlighted the following topics: Current Transit Corridors, Potential Timeline, Planning & Project Development Process, Project Development Status, and Summary of Projects (a copy of the presentation was distributed).

Mr. Cosgrove stated that item 6A1, 6B1 will be discussed after the Pro forma Workshop. Item 6B2 has been deferred until both Compliance and Oversight and Budget & Finance committees

have reviewed and approved the item. Item 6B3 will be discussed but no action will be taken until after the Workshop.

ACTION ITEMS

External Affairs Resolutions

6A2 Resolution by the CITT recognizing and commending Virginia Diaz, Special Assistant Director, Office of CITT, as well as all MDT and CITT staff that provided assistance in the logistics and organization of the November 8, 2003, Transportation Plan-One Year in Review.

Mr. Morse moved to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Givens and carried without dissent.

Project Review Resolutions

6B3 Bus Service Improvement for December 7, 2003 lineup

Mr. Cosgrove stated that the item would be discussed but voted on after the Workshop.

LtCol Colmenares stated that Clinton Forbes presented the Bus Service Improvements to the Project Review Committee on November 10, 2003. The committee unanimously approved the bus service improvements that had already been approved by the CITT in July. However, there were Non-PTP bus routes that needed CITT approval, but because of the time constraints MDT raised, it was suggested to Mr. Forbes to address those concerns with the Chair at the Executive Planning Committee. Mr. Forbes also requested approval to provide the MDT Director with discretionary authority. It was suggested to Mr. Forbes to further discuss the request with Mr. Bradley and bring back a plan for consideration.

Mr. Bradley addressed the members and stated that the two items: 1) the bus service improvements and 2) discretionary powers with retroactive approval. MDT staff has consulted with CITT staff and presented a draft resolution. Mr. Moss asked Mr. Bradley to explain the impact of not approving the item. Mr. Bradley briefly commented that postponing or canceling the December 7, 2003 lineup would have significant impact on system efficiency, riders and transit employees (a copy of the impact was distributed).

Mr. Cosgrove mentioned that a memo from Ms. Fernandez was included in the package. The memo is an independent staff recommendation. Ms. Fernandez recommends approval of the bus service improvements with a condition that MDT monitor the following 3 routes: Coral Reef, Flagler Max and the West Dade Connection and report back to the CITT at it January 28, 2003 meeting.

Mark Richard, attorney representing Transport Union Workers Local 291, urged the members to approve the Bus Service Improvements December 7, 2003 lineup. Bus operators pick their work in seniority order. The elimination of even one piece of work, especially one picked by a high seniority operator, would require a massive amount of

repicking by many operators. In addition, a significant number of transit passengers are already aware of service improvements that are scheduled to start December 7, 2003.

Members raised concerns of why the public was noticed of the forthcoming changes without the proper approval.

The MDT bus operators expressed their concerns on the impact it would have to the bus drivers if the Bus Service Improvements were not approved and urged the members to approve the December 7, 2003 lineup.

Mr. Abrams excused himself at 12:25 p.m.

Mr. Cosgrove recessed the meeting at 12:55 p.m. to begin the CITT Pro forma Workshop on the 2nd floor in the City Manager's Conference Room.

With a quorum being present, Mr. Cosgrove reconvened the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Members present: Hon. John Cosgrove, Marc Buoniconti, Franklin Kelly, Henry Lee Givens, Miles Moss, Hon. Luis Morse, James Reeder, Theodore Wilde.

External Affairs Resolution

6A1 Resolution to provide the Optimum benefit to the Citizens of Miami Dade County, protecting the PTP and its ability to fund future transportation improvement projects by leveraging federal matching funds, the CITT is hereby recommending that the Board of County Commissioners, together with the Metropolitan Planning Organization support the repeal of the High Speed Ground Transportation System Amendment (article X, Section 19) of the Florida Constitution.

Mr. Morse distributed a similar resolution provided by the Florida Public Transportation Association. The resolution expresses the same concerns with the additional language opposing the use of current state funds and that either funds be used that were originally set aside for High Speed Rail program or a new, dedicated source of revenue be found for the project.

Mr. Morse requested a motion to substitute the current resolution for the FPTA resolution, seconded by Mr. Moss.

Mr. Cosgrove asked Mr. Rene Rodriguez to address the members on the issue. Mr. Rodriguez stated that he is speaking on behalf of Gary Dunn. At the present time, the FDOT has not taken a position. The High Speed Rail is designed for Orlando and Tampa connection. No plans have been done for the Miami Connection.

Mr. Cosgrove stated that the CITT is independent to approve resolutions on any issues that the CITT deems appropriate within its jurisdiction. Resolutions are an expression of the CITT opinion. It is not a binding legal document.

Mr. Morse recommends that the CITT approve the substitute resolution to be forwarded to the BCC for its consideration and then to combine presumably with its position and forwarded both on to the appropriate parties. Mr Cosgrove deferred the resolution to allow staff to write an amendment to the substitute resolution.

Ms. Fernandez read the following amended substitute resolution:

A Resolution of the CITT to recommend to the BCC together with the MPO to oppose the current funding mechanism for the High Speed Ground Transportation System, up to including an appeal, and incorporating this position in the State Legislative Package. The remainder of the body will remain the same with the exception:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the CITT recommends that the BCC:

1. Strongly oppose the use of current state funds in the Public Transportation or public transit portion of the FDOT budget to fund High Speed Rail,
2. That either funds be used that were originally set aside for the High Speed Rail program, or a new, dedicated source of revenue be found for the project.
3. If neither of the above are possible, to support a repeal.

Mr. Morse withdrew his motion, the second withdrew his second. Mr. Morse moved approval of the amended substitute resolution, the motion was unanimously approved.

Project Review Resolution

6B1 Resolution by the CITT requesting the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) conduct a study of the use of waterways for rapid mass transit to be funded under the unified planning work program (UPWP).

Mr. Cosgrove moved approval of the resolution, the motion was unanimously approved. In addition, he requested that a cover letter also be sent to Jose Mesa, Director, MPO, to report back to the CITT when the study has been completed.

6B3 LtCol Colmenares moved approval of the Bus Service Improvements December 7, 2003 lineup, seconded by Mr. Moss and carried without dissent.

Mr. Buoniconti stated for the record that the pro forma presented during the workshop was not broken down by the surtax funds as it relates to the PTP. He is not comfortable making an informed decision. Mr. Cosgrove asked Ms. Fernandez to restate the 3 routes that staff raised concerns. Ms. Fernandez requested that MDT provide the CITT with a report of the utilization of the following routes for the next CITT meeting January 28, 2004. (Coral Reef Max, Flagler Max and West Dade Connection)

NEW BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Fernandez announced that the CITT Nominating Committee met December 2, 2003 and prepared slates for the current vacant commission districts, 2, 6, 11, and 13. It is likely that by December 17, 2003 the CITT will have 2 new members. She has met with the General Services Administration (GSA) to discuss office space for staff and for the needs for the CITT. The CITT departmental budget for the current year will be presented to the Budget and Finance Committee December 11, 2003 for additional input. In addition, the County requires that a business plan be provided. A copy of the CITT 2004 calendar has been distributed. Lastly, announced the Smart Commute Program kick-off scheduled for December 19, 2003 (a copy of the invitation was distributed). Ms. Fernandez asked the members if they have a special request to please contact her directly and she will assign the appropriate person to assist them.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.